



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Cold Springs Power Line Clearance		
PROJECT LOCATION	Cold Springs Repeater Site location: Lat. N39.0224019, Long. W123.522' Elevation: 2736-ft. Approximately 6.2 air miles SW of Philo, CA Power line location: T14N, R15W; Sections 28, 33; Mt. Diablo Baseline & Meridian	COUNTY	Mendocino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Louis Sciocchetti, Forester II		
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE 802 North Main Street Ft. Bragg, CA 95437	PHONE	707-961-1494 (Office) 707-391-6750 (Cellular)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of the trimming/removal of trees & shrubs growing within the Right-of-Way (ROW) of an existing power distribution line. Trees & shrubs will be trimmed/removed as necessary to obtain adequate power line clearance & to reduce fuel loading & gain power pole / line access. Dead, dying, or diseased trees that may impact lines will be removed, as will trees with excessive lean and/or damaged root systems. Generally, trees less than 12-inches DBH will be removed. CAL FIRE inmate hand crews will complete the work utilizing utilize hand tools and chainsaws, with slash to be piled and burned. A tree service company and/or professional timber fallers may be utilized as necessary to climb/limb and/or fell hazard trees.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 15304 (f) Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

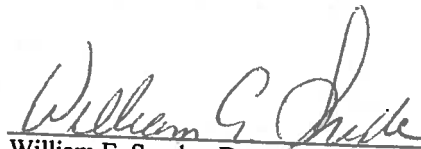
REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under Categorical Exemption Class 4, Minor land alterations. The power lines are owned and controlled by CAL FIRE, which has responsibility for vegetation clearance. The lines supply power to a communications vault w/associated repeater towers, as well as to an old CAL FIRE Lookout. The vault/tower facility serves both public and private communication needs. The CAL FIRE Area Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit, Resource Management, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 6/19/12
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection